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April 17, 2001 LB 242, 620

CLERK: Mr. President, thank you. Senator Beutler has a series of amendments to LB 242 to be printed. And an announcement, Mr. President. A reminder that the Redistricting Committee will meet at noon today in Room 1507. (Legislative Journal page 1501.)

Mr. President, the next bill for consideration this morning, LB 620, a bill introduced by Senator Kristensen. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 16 of this year. It was referred to the Revenue Committee, advanced to General File. The bill was discussed on the floor, Mr. President, on April 11. At that time, the committee amendments were adopted, as was an amendment by Senator Hartnett to the bill that was adopted. I now have additional amendments pending to the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Kristensen, you're recognized to give us an update or brief...well, what happened to the bill prior to this time.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the Legislature unanimously approved this bill last week and passed it on. I don't know why we're on Select File. We should be on Select. Sorry, Senator Cudaback, I just thought I'd gain your attention up there. (Laughter)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Had me worried for a minute.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. LB 620 is an economic incentive bill which basically provides for three level of incentives. There is a level for counties outside of Lancaster, Douglas and Sarpy counties, which is the "Rural Tiers". If you have so many...50 jobs, \$20 million of investment and your jobs are above 100 percent of the average wage, you get some incentives. There's a modification in the middle tier of the existing Quality Jobs Act, and there is a new tier which is for larger incentives which require substantial investment of 500 jobs, \$200 million of investment and over 120 percent of the Nebraska annual wage paid to its employees. We have had several amendments dealing...the substantial amendment was the committee amendment. There was another